



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/705,707	11/06/2000	Masaki Kyojima	107750	7854

25944 7590 12/11/2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. BOX 19928
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320

EXAMINER

WORJLOH, JALATEE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3621

DATE MAILED: 12/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary

Application No.

09/705,707

Applicant(s)

KYOJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Jalatee Wörjloh

Art Unit

3621

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Jalatee Wörjloh.

(3) Gang Luo.

(2) James Trammell.

(4) ____.

Date of Interview: 03 December 2003.

Type: a) ☐ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference

c) ☒ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☒ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☐ No.

If Yes, brief description: ____.

Claim(s) discussed: all.

Identification of prior art discussed: Vaeth et al.

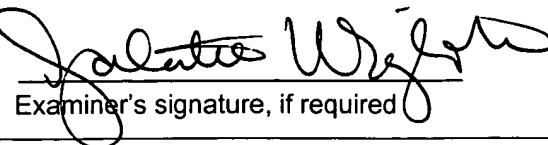
Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant's representative tentatively agreed to modify claims 1 and 9 (also other relating claims) to specify the difference between the 1st request and 2nd request and to identify the type of booking certificate (e.g. for a supply of a product...). Further, Applicant's representative tentatively decided to modify claims 1, 9, 16 and 20 to include technology (see 35 USC 101) within the claims' body.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate issuance method for issuing an electronic booking certificate for certifying that ~~the~~a supply of a product and/or a service is booked in advance for a specific consumer, comprising ~~the steps of~~:
 - preparing verification information required for verifying ~~the~~a legitimacy of a booking certificate;
 - inputting information for identifying the verification information;
 - preparing a booking certificate verifiable with the verification information identified by the inputted information for identifying verification information; and
 - outputting the booking certificate thus prepared.
2. (Currently Amended) A computerized booking certificate issuance system for issuing an electronic booking certificate for certifying that ~~the~~a supply of a product or a service is booked in advance for a specific consumer, comprising:
 - verification information preparing means for preparing verification information required for verifying ~~the~~a legitimacy of a booking certificate;
 - verification information output means for outputting the verification information prepared by the verification information preparing means;
 - booking certificate preparing means, to which information for identifying the verification information is inputted, for preparing a booking certificate verifiable with the verification information identified by the input; and
 - booking certificate output means for outputting the booking certificate prepared by the booking certificate preparing means.

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

3. (Original) A booking certificate issuance system, as claimed in Claim 2, further comprising:

booking conditions preparing means for preparing booking conditions, which are conditions for limiting booking particulars, wherein

the booking certificate prepared by the booking certificate preparing means contains the booking conditions prepared by the booking conditions preparing means.

4. (Original) A booking certificate issuance system, as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the booking certificate preparing means receives input of information for identifying an intermediary of a request for booking certificate, together with the information for identifying verification information, and a booking certificate intermediation license certifying that the intermediary is licensed to intermediate the request for booking certificate corresponding to the verification information thus identified, checks whether or not the intermediary is licensed for intermediation of the request for booking certificate corresponding to the verification information by referencing the booking certificate intermediation license, and prepares the booking certificate only when the intermediary is found to be licensed.

5. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate issuance system, as claimed in Claim 2, further comprising:

a booking certificate issuance history memory unit that stores a booking certificate issuance history;

a booking certificate issuance history for provider preparing unit, to which information for identifying the provider of a product and/or a service is inputted, that extracts a booking certificate issuance history for provider regarding the product and/or the service available from the provider out of the issuance history stored in the booking certificate issuance history memory unit; and

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

a booking certificate issuance history for provider output unit that outputs the booking certificate issuance history for provider prepared by the booking certificate issuance history for provider preparing unit.

6. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate issuance system, as claimed in Claim 2, further comprising:

booking certificate request accepting means for accepting a request for booking certificate, wherein

a booking certificate is prepared by the booking certificate preparing means when the booking certificate request accepting means has accepted a request for booking certificate, and wherein the system further comprises:

a booking certificate issuance history memory unit that stores a booking certificate issuance history;

a booking certificate issuance history for requester preparing unit, to which information for identifying the requester of booking certificate is inputted, that extracts a booking certificate issuance history for requester regarding, which is the history of booking certificate issuance for the requester, out of the issuance history stored in the booking certificate issuance history memory unit; and

a booking certificate issuance history for requester output unit that outputs the booking certificate issuance history for requester prepared by the booking certificate issuance history for requester preparing unit.

7. (Original) A booking certificate issuance system, as claimed in Claim 2, further comprising:

a verification information issuance history memory unit that stores a verification information issuance history;

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

a verification information issuance history preparing unit, to which information for identifying a grantee of verification information is inputted, that extracts a verification information issuance history for grantee, which is a verification information issuance history regarding the verification information issued to the grantee, out of the issuance history stored in the verification information issuance history memory unit; and

a verification information issuance history output unit that outputs the verification information issuance history for grantee prepared by the verification information issuance history preparing unit.

8. (Original) A booking certificate issuance system, as claimed in Claim 2, further comprising:

encrypted public key pair preparing means for preparing an encrypted public key pair; and

private key holding means for holding a private key out of the public key pair prepared by the encrypted public key pair preparing means, wherein

the verification information is a public key prepared by the encrypted public key pair preparing means, and the booking certificate is prepared by using the private key held by the private key holding means.

9. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate intermediation method for performing intermediation of a request for an electronic booking certificate for certifying that ~~the~~ a supply of a product and/or a service is booked in advance for a specific consumer, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

receiving a first request for booking certificate, which is a request for ~~the~~ an issuance of a booking certificate certifying ~~the~~ an advance booking of a specific product and/or service;

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

preparing a second request for booking certificate, which is a request for the issuance of the booking certificate requested with the ~~accepted~~received first request for booking certificate; and

outputting the second request for booking certificate thus prepared.

10. (Currently Amended) A computerized booking certificate intermediation system for performing intermediation of a request for an electronic booking certificate for certifying that ~~the~~a supply of a product or a service is booked in advance for a specific consumer, comprising:

booking certificate request acceptance means for accepting a first request for booking certificate, which is a request for ~~the~~an issuance of a booking certificate for certifying ~~the~~a booking in advance for a specific product and/or service that is offered for supply;

booking certificate request preparing means for preparing a second request for booking certificate requesting the issuance of ~~a~~the booking certificate requested with the accepted first request for booking certificate; and

booking certificate request output means for outputting the second request for booking certificate generated by the booking certificate request preparing means.

11. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate intermediation system, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein verification information needed for verifying ~~the~~a legitimacy of a specific booking certificate is associated with a specific product and/or service, and the first and second requests for booking certificates contain information for identifying ~~the~~ verification information for specifying the product and/or service for which a booking certificate is requested with the requests.

12. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate intermediation system, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the requested booking certificate contains booking conditions,

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

which are the conditions for limiting booking particulars, and wherein the system further comprises:

booking conditions preparing means for preparing the booking conditions to be contained in the requested booking certificate, wherein

the second request for booking certificate prepared by the booking certificate request preparing means contains the booking conditions prepared by the booking conditions preparing means.

13. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate intermediation system, as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising:

booking certificate intermediation license storage means for holding a booking certificate intermediation license to certify that the system is licensed for intermediation of

the first request for booking certificate regarding the specific product and/or service, wherein:

the second request for booking certificate, outputted from the booking certificate request output means contains the booking certificate intermediation license to intermediate the first request for the booking certificate regarding the specific product and/or service.

14. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate intermediation system, as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising:

billing means for charging a fee for booking certificate issuance to the requester of the first request for booking certificate, wherein

the ~~prescribed booking certificate issuance fee~~ is charged by the billing means to the requester when the first request for booking certificate is inputted.

15. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate intermediation system, as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising:

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

account settlement means for collecting a fee for booking certificate issuance from ~~the~~a requester of the first request for booking certificate, wherein the ~~booking certificate issuance~~ fee is collected by the account settlement means from the requester when the first request for booking certificate is inputted.

16. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate intermediation license method for licensing ~~the~~an intermediation of a request for an electronic booking certificate certifying that ~~the~~a supply of a product and/or a service is booked in advance by a specific consumer, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

inputting information for identifying an intermediary to perform intermediation of a request for booking certificate of a product and/or a service;

inputting information for specifying the product and/or service for which the intermediary is licensed for intermediation;

preparing a booking certificate intermediation license for certifying that the intermediation of the request for booking certificate for the product and/or service specified by the latter input information is licensed to the intermediary identified by the former input information; and

outputting the booking certificate intermediation license certificate thus prepared.

17. (Currently Amended) A computerized booking certificate intermediation licensing system for licensing intermediation of a request for an electronic booking certificate for certifying that ~~the~~a supply of a product and/or a service is booked in advance for a specific consumer, comprising:

booking certificate intermediation license preparing means, to which information for identifying an intermediary to perform intermediation of a request for booking certificate and information for specifying a product and/or a service for which the

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

intermediary is licensed for intermediation are inputted, for preparing a booking certificate intermediation license for certifying that the intermediary identified by the former input information is licensed for the intermediation of the request for booking certificate for the product and/or service specified by the latter input information; and

booking certificate intermediation license output means for outputting the booking certificate intermediation license prepared by the booking certificate intermediation license preparing means.

18. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate intermediation licensing system, as claimed in Claim 17, further comprising:

booking conditions limitation information preparing means for preparing booking conditions limitation information, which is information for limiting the scope of the booking conditions, which are conditions for limiting booking particulars to be entered in the booking certificate issued by intermediation by the intermediary, who is the recipient of the license, wherein

the booking certificate intermediation license prepared by the booking certificate intermediation license preparing means contains the booking conditions limitation information prepared by the booking conditions limitation information preparing means.

19. (Original) A booking certificate intermediation licensing system, as claimed in Claim 17, further comprising:

a booking certificate intermediation license issuance history memory unit that stores a license issuance history;

a booking certificate intermediation license issuance history for intermediary preparing unit, to which information for specifying the intermediary of a request for booking certificate is inputted, that extracts out of issuance history recorded in the booking certificate intermediation license issuance history memory unit a booking certificate intermediation

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

license issuance history for intermediary, which is a history regarding license issued to the intermediary; and

a booking certificate intermediation license issuance history for intermediary output unit that outputs the booking certificate intermediation license issuance history for intermediary prepared by the booking certificate intermediation license issuance history for intermediary preparing unit.

20. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate verifying method for verifying ~~the~~ a legitimacy of an electronic booking certificate certifying that ~~the~~ a supply of a product and/or a service is booked in advance for a specific consumer, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

storing verification information for verifying the booking certificate;

inputting the booking certificate; and

verifying the legitimacy of the input booking certificate by using the stored verification information.

21. (Currently Amended) A booking certificate verification apparatus for verifying ~~the~~ a legitimacy of an electronic booking certificate certifying that ~~the~~ a supply of a product and/or a service is booked in advance for a specific consumer, comprising:

verification information storage means for storing verification information for verifying the booking certificate; and

booking certificate verification means, to which the booking certificate is inputted, for verifying the legitimacy of the input booking certificate by using the verification information stored in the verification information storage means.

22. (Original) A booking certificate verification apparatus, as claimed in Claim 21, further comprising:

connection means for connecting a portable memory apparatus holding the booking certificate, wherein

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

the booking certificate verification means verifies through the connection means the legitimacy of the booking certificate stored in the portable memory apparatus.

23. (New) The booking certificate verification apparatus of claim 2, wherein the booking certificate is usable to be downloaded to a portable memory unit to be presented for receiving the booked product and/or service.

24. (New) The booking certificate verification apparatus of claim 23, wherein the portable memory unit comprises an IC card.

25. (New) The booking certificate verification apparatus of claim 10, wherein the booking certificate is usable to be downloaded to a portable memory unit to be presented for receiving the booked product and/or service.

26. (New) The booking certificate verification apparatus of claim 25, wherein the portable memory unit comprises an IC card.

27. (New) The booking certificate verification apparatus of claim 17, wherein the booking certificate is usable to be downloaded to a portable memory unit to be presented for receiving the booked product and/or service.

28. (New) The booking certificate verification apparatus of claim 27, wherein the portable memory unit comprises an IC card.

29. (New) The booking certificate verification apparatus of claim 21, wherein the portable memory apparatus comprises an IC card.

30. (New) A computer storage medium having executable software code, the executable software code including:

instructions for preparing verification information required for verifying a legitimacy of a booking certificate;

instructions for inputting information for identifying the verification information;

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

instructions for preparing a booking certificate verifiable with the verification information identified by the inputted information for identifying verification information; and

instructions for outputting the booking certificate thus prepared.

31. (New) A computer storage medium having executable software code, the executable software code including:

instructions for receiving a first request for booking certificate, which is a request for an issuance of a booking certificate certifying an advance booking of a specific product and/or service;

instructions for preparing a second request for booking certificate, which is a request for the issuance of the booking certificate requested with the received first request for booking certificate; and

instructions for outputting the second request for booking certificate thus prepared.

32. (New) A computer storage medium having executable software code, the executable software code including:

instructions for inputting information for identifying an intermediary to perform intermediation of a request for booking certificate of a product and/or a service;

instructions for inputting information for specifying the product and/or service for which the intermediary is licensed for intermediation;

instructions for preparing a booking certificate intermediation license for certifying that the intermediation of the request for booking certificate for the product and/or service specified by the latter input information is licensed to the intermediary identified by the former input information; and

PROPOSED

Application No. 09/705,707

instructions for outputting the booking certificate intermediation license
certificate thus prepared.

33. (New) A computer storage medium having executable software code, the
executable software code including:

instructions for storing verification information for verifying the booking
certificate;

instructions for inputting the booking certificate; and

instructions for verifying the legitimacy of the input booking certificate by
using the stored verification information.